

# REA

**RAY**. *n. f.* [*raie*, *rayon*, Fr. *radius*, Lat.]  
 1. A beam of light.  
 These eyes that roll in vain  
 To find thy piercing ray, and find no dawn.  
 The least light, or part of light, which may be stop alone,  
 or do or suffer any thing alone, which the rest of the light  
 doth not or suffers not, I call a ray of light. *Newton.*  
 2. Any lustre corporeal or intellectual.  
 The air sharpen'd his visual ray. *Milton.*  
 3. [*Raye*, Fr. *raie*, Lat.] A fish. *Ainsworth.*  
 4. [*Lolium*, Lat.] An herb. *Ainsworth.*  
 To **RAY**. *v. a.* [*raye*, Fr. from the noun.] To streak; to  
 mark in long lines. An old word.  
 Beside a bubbling fountain low the lay,  
 Which the increased with her bleeding heart,  
 And the clean waves with purple gore did ray. *Fa. Qu.*  
 His horse is *rayed* with the yellows. *Shakefp.*  
 Was ever man so beaten? was ever men so *rayed*? was  
 ever man so weary? *Shakefp. Taming of the Shrew.*  
**RAY**, for *array*. *Spenser.*  
**RAZE**. *n. f.* [*rayz*, a root, Spanish.] A root of ginger. This  
 is commonly written *race*, but less properly.  
 I have a gammon of bacon and two *razes* of ginger to be  
 delivered. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. i.*  
 To **RAZE**. *v. a.* [*razer*, Fr. *rafus*, Lat.] See **RASE**.  
 1. To overthrow; to ruin; to subvert.  
 Will you suffer a temple, how poorly built soever, but yet  
 a temple of your deity, to be *razed*. *Sidney, b. ii.*  
 He yokes your rebellious necks,  
*Razes* your cities, and subverts your towns. *Shakefp.*  
 It grieved the tyrant, that so base a town should so long  
 hold out, so that he would threaten to *raze* it. *Knolles.*  
 Shed christian blood, and populous cities *raze*;  
 Because they're taught to use some diff'rent phrase. *Waller.*  
 We touch'd with joy  
 The royal hand that *raz'd* unhappy Troy. *Dryden.*  
 The place would be *razed* to the ground, and its founda-  
 tions frown with salt. *Addison's Spectator, N° 189.*  
 2. To efface.  
 Fatal this marriage; cancelling your fame,  
*Razing* the characters of your renown. *Shakefp.*  
 Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,  
*Raze* out the written troubles of the brain. *Shakefp.*  
 He in derision sets  
 Upon their tongues a various spirit, to *raze*  
 Quite out their native language; and instead,  
 To sow a jangling noise of words. *Milton's Par. Lost.*  
 3. To extirpate.  
 I'll find a day to massacre them all,  
 And *raze* their faction and their family. *Shakefp.*  
**RAZOR**. *n. f.* [*razer*, Lat.] A knife with a thick blade and  
 fine edge used in shaving.  
 Zeal, except ordered aright, useth the *razor* with such ea-  
 gerness, that the life of religion is thereby hazarded. *Hooker.*  
 These words are *razors* to my wounded heart. *Shakefp.*  
 Those thy boist'rous locks, not by the sword  
 Of noble warrior, so to stain his honour,  
 But by the barber's *razor* best subdued. *Milton's Agonistes.*  
 All our lords are by his wealth outv'd,  
 Whose *razor* on my callow beard was try'd. *Dryden.*  
*Razor* makers generally clap a small bar of Venice steel  
 between two small bars of Flemish steel, and weld them to-  
 gether, to strengthen the back of the *razor*. *Moxon.*  
**RAZORABLE**. *adj.* [from *razor*.] Fit to be shaved. Not in use.  
 New-born chins be rough and *razorable*. *Shakefp.*  
**RAZORFISH**. *n. f.*  
 The sheath or *razorfish* resembleth in length and bigness a  
 man's finger. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*  
**RAZURE**. *n. f.* [*rasure*, Fr. *rasura*, Latin.] Act of erasing.  
 Oh! your desert speaks loud;  
 It well deserves with characters of brafs  
 A fortified residence, 'gainst the tooth of time  
 And *razure* of oblivion. *Shakefp. Measure for Measure.*  
**RE**. Is an inseparable particle used by the Latins, and from them  
 borrowed by us to denote iteration or backward action:  
 as, *return*, to come back; to *revive*, to live again; *reper-*  
*cussion*, the act of driving back.  
**REACCESS**. *n. f.* [*re* and *access*.] Visit renewed.  
 Let pass the quailing and withering of all things by the  
 recels, and their reviving by the *reaccess* of the sun. *Hakewill.*  
 To **REACH**. *v. a.* ancient preterite *raught*. [*racan*, Saxon.]  
 1. To touch with the hand extended.  
 What are riches, empire, pow'r,  
 But larger means to gratify the will;  
 The steps by which we climb to rise and *reach*  
 Our wish, and that obtained, down with a scaffolding  
 Of scepters, crowns and thrones: they've serv'd their end,  
 And there like lumber to be left and scorn'd. *Congreve.*  
 2. To arrive at; to attain any thing distant; to strike from a  
 distance.  
 Round the tree  
 They longing stood, but could not *reach*. *Milton.*  
 O patron pow'r, thy present aid afford,  
 That I may *reach* the beast. *Dryden.*

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The coast so long desir'd  
 Thy troops shall *reach*, but having *reach'd*, repent. *Dryden.*  
 What remains beyond this, we have no more a positive no-  
 tion of, than a mariner has of the depth of the sea; where,  
 having let down his sounding-line, he *reaches* no bottom. *Locke.*  
 It must fall perhaps before this letter *reaches* your hands. *Pope.*  
 3. To fetch from some place distant, and give.  
 He *reached* me a full cup. *2 Esdr. xiv. 39.*  
 4. To bring forward from a distant place.  
*Reach* hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and *reach*  
 hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side. *John xx. 27.*  
 5. To hold out; to stretch forth.  
 These kinds of goodness are so nearly united to the things  
 which desire them, that we scarcely perceive the appetite to  
 stir in *reaching* forth her hand towards them. *Hooker.*  
 When thou fittest among many, *reach* not thine hand out  
 first. *Ecclef. xxxi. 18.*  
 6. To attain; to gain; to obtain.  
 The best accounts of the appearances of nature, which hu-  
 man penetration can *reach*, comes short of its reality. *Cheyne.*  
 7. To transfer.  
 Through such hands  
 The knowledge of the gods is *reach'd* to man. *Rousseau.*  
 8. To penetrate to.  
 Whatever alterations are made in the body, if they *reach*  
 not the mind, there is no perception. *Locke.*  
 9. To be adequate to.  
 The law *reached* the intention of the promoters, and this  
 act fixed the natural price of money. *Locke.*  
 If these examples of grown men *reach* not the case of chil-  
 dren, let them examine. *Locke on Education.*  
 10. To extend to.  
 Thy desire leads to no excess that *reaches* blame. *Milton.*  
 Her imprecations *reach* not to the tomb,  
 They shut not out society in death. *Addison's Cato.*  
 11. To extend; to spread abroad.  
 Trees *reach'd* too far their pamper'd boughs. *Milton.*  
 To **REACH**. *v. n.*  
 1. To be extended.  
 We hold that the power which the church hath lawfully  
 to make laws doth extend unto sundry things of ecclesiastical  
 jurisdiction, and such other matters whereto their opinion is,  
 that the church's authority and power doth not *reach*. *Hooker.*  
 The new world *reaches* quite cross the torrid zone in one  
 tropic to the other. *Boyle.*  
 When men pursue their thoughts of space, they are apt to  
 stop at the confines of body, as if space were there at an end  
 too, and *reached* no farther. *Locke.*  
 If I do not ask any thing improper, let me be buried by  
 Theodosius; my vow *reaches* no farther than the grave. *Add.*  
 The influence of the stars *reaches* to many events, which  
 are not in the power of reason. *Swift.*  
 2. To be extended far.  
 Great men have *reaching* hands. *Shakefp. Henry VI.*  
 3. To penetrate.  
 He hath delivered them into your hand, and ye have slain  
 them in a rage, that *reaches* up into heaven. *2 Chr. xxviii.*  
 We *reach* forward into futurity, and bring up to our thoughts  
 objects hid in the remotest depths of time. *Addison.*  
 4. To make efforts to attain.  
 Could a sailor always supply new line, and find the plum-  
 met sink without stopping, he would be in the posture of the  
 mind, *reaching* after a positive idea of infinity. *Locke.*  
 5. To take in the hand.  
 Left he *reach* of the tree of life, and eat. *Milton.*  
**REACH**. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
 1. Act of reaching or bringing by extension of the hand.  
 2. Power of reaching or taking in the hand.  
 There may be in a man's *reach* a book containing pictures  
 and discourses, capable to delight and instruct him, which yet  
 he may never have the will to open. *Locke.*  
 3. Power of attainment or management.  
 In actions, within the *reach* of power in him, a man seems  
 as free as it is possible for freedom to make him. *Locke.*  
 4. Power; limit of faculties.  
 Our fight may be considered as a more diffusive kind of  
 touch, that brings into our *reach* some of the most remote  
 parts of the universe. *Addison.*  
 Be sure yourself and your own *reach* to know,  
 How far your genius, taste and learning go. *Pope.*  
 5. Contrivance; artful scheme; deep thought.  
 Drawn by others, who had deeper *reaches* than themselves  
 to matters which they least intended. *Hayward.*  
 Some, under types, have affected obscurity to amuse and  
 make themselves admired for profound *reaches*. *Howell.*  
 6. A fetch; an artifice to attain some distant advantage.  
 The duke of Parma had particular *reaches* and ends of his  
 own underhand, to cross the design. *Bacon.*  
 7. Tendency to distant consequences.  
 Strain not my speech  
 To grosser issues, nor to larger *reach*,  
 Than to suspicion. *Shakefp. Othello.*  
 8. Extent.

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8. Extent.  
 The confines met of empyrean heav'n,  
 And of this world: and, on the left hand, hell  
 With long *reach* interpos'd, *Milton's Par. Lost, b. x.*  
 To **REACT**. *v. a.* [*re* and *act*.] To return the impulse or  
 impression.  
 The lungs being the chief instrument of sanguification,  
 and acting strongly upon the chyle to bring it to an animal  
 fluid, must be *reacted* upon as strongly. *Arbutnot.*  
 Cut off your hand, and you may do  
 With t'other hand the work of two;  
 Because the foul her power contracts,  
 And on the brother limb *reacts*. *Swift's Miscellanies.*  
**REACTION**. *n. f.* [*reaction*, Fr. from *react*.] The recipro-  
 cation of any impulse or force impressed, made by the body  
 on which such impression is made: *action* and *reaction* are  
 equal.  
 Do not great bodies conserve their heat the longest, their  
 parts heating one another; and may not great, dense and  
 fixed bodies, when heated beyond a certain degree, emit  
 light so copiously, as, by the emission and *reaction* of its  
 light, and the reflexions and refractions of its rays within its  
 pores, to grow still hotter till it comes to a certain period of  
 heat, such as is that of the sun? *Newton's Opticks.*  
 Alimentary substances, of a mild nature, act with small  
 force upon the solids, and as the action and *reaction* are equal,  
 the smallest degree of force in the solids digests them. *Arb.*  
**READ**. *n. f.* [*read*, Saxon; *raed*, Dutch.]  
 1. Council.  
 The man is blest that hath not lent  
 To wicked *read* his ear. *Sternhold.*  
 2. Saying; saw. This word is in both senses obsolete.  
 This *read* is ripe that oftentimes  
 Great cumburs fall unsoit,  
 In humble dales is footing fast,  
 The trade is not so tickle. *Spenser.*  
 To **READ**. *v. a.* pret. *read*, part. pass. *read*. [*raes*, Saxon.]  
 1. To peruse any thing written.  
 I have seen her take forth paper, write upon't, *read* it,  
 and afterwards seal it. *Shakefp. Macbeth.*  
 The passage you must have *read*, though since slept out of  
 your memory. *Pope.*  
 If we have not leisure to *read* over the book itself regularly,  
 then by the titles of chapters we may be directed to peruse  
 several sections. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*  
 2. To discover by characters or marks.  
 An armed corse did lie,  
 In whose dead face he *read* great magnanimity. *Spenser.*  
 3. To learn by observation.  
 Those about her  
 From her shall *read* the perfect ways of honour. *Shakefp.*  
 4. To know fully.  
 O most delicate fiend!  
 Who is't can *read* a woman? *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*  
 To **READ**. *v. n.*  
 1. To perform the act of perusing writing.  
 It shall be with him, and he shall *read* therein, that he may  
 learn to fear the Lord. *Deut. xvii. 19.*  
 2. To be studious in books.  
 'Tis sure that Fleury *reads*. *Taylor.*  
 3. To know by reading.  
 I have *read* of an eastern king, who put a judge to death  
 for an iniquitous sentence. *Swift.*  
**READ**. *partic. adj.* [from *read*, the verb *read* is pronounced  
*read*, the preterite and participle *red*.] Skilful by reading.  
 Virgil's shepherds are too well *read* in the philosophy of  
 Epicurus. *Dryden.*  
 We have a poet among us, of a genius as exalted as his  
 stature, and who is very well *read* in Longinus his treatise  
 concerning the sublime. *Addison's Guardian, N° 108.*  
**READING**. *n. f.* [from *read*.]  
 1. Study in books; perusal of books.  
 Though *reading* and conversation may furnish us with  
 many ideas of men and things, yet it is our own meditation  
 must form our judgment. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*  
 Less *reading* than makes felons 'scape,  
 Less human genius than God gives an ape,  
 Can make a Clobber. *Pope.*  
 2. A lecture; a prelection.  
 The Jews always had their weekly *readings* of the law.  
 Give attendance to *reading*, exhortation and doctrine. *Hooker, b. v. f. 8.*  
 3. Public recital.  
 The Jews always had their weekly *readings* of the law.  
 4. Variation of copies.  
 That learned prelate has restored some of the *readings* of  
 the authors with great sagacity. *Arbutnot on Coins.*  
**READEPTION**. *n. f.* [*re* and *adeptus*, Latin.] Recovery; act  
 of regaining.  
 Will any say, that the *readeption* of Trevisi was matter of  
 scruple? *Bacon.*  
**READER**. *n. f.* [from *read*.]  
 1. One that peruses any thing written.

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As we must take the care that our words and sense be clear,  
 so if the obscurity happen through the hearers or readers want  
 of understanding, I am not to answer for them. *B. Johnson.*  
 2. One studious in books.  
 Bafiris' altars and the dire decrees *Dryden.*  
 Of hard Eusebius, ev'ry reader tees.  
 3. One whose office is to read prayers in churches.  
 He got into orders, and became a reader in a parish church  
 at twenty pounds a year. *Swift.*  
**READERSHIP**. *n. f.* [from *reader*.] The office of reading  
 prayers.  
 When they have taken a degree, they get into orders, and  
 solicit a *readership*. *Swift's Miscellanies.*  
**READILY**. *adv.* [from *ready*.] Expeditely; with little hinde-  
 rance or delay.  
 My tongue obey'd, and *readily* could name  
 Whate'er I saw. *Milton.*  
 Those very things, which are declined as impossible, are  
*readily* practicable in a case of extreme necessity. *South.*  
 I *readily* grant, that one truth cannot contradict another. *Locke.*  
 Every one sometime or other dreams that he is reading  
 papers, in which case the invention prompts so *readily*, that  
 the mind is imposed upon. *Addison's Spectator, N° 487.*  
**READINESS**. *n. f.* [from *ready*.]  
 1. Expediteness; promptitude.  
 He would not forget the *readiness* of their king, in aiding  
 him when the duke of Bretagne failed him. *Bacon.*  
 He opens himself to the man of business with reluctance,  
 but offers himself to the visits of a friend with facility and all  
 the meeting *readiness* of desire. *South.*  
 2. The state of being ready or fit for any thing.  
 Have you an army *ready*?  
 —The centurions and their charges already in the enter-  
 tainment to be on foot at an hour's warning. *Shakefp.*  
 —I am joyful to hear of their *readiness*. *Shakefp.*  
 They remained near a month, that they might be in *rea-*  
*diness* to attend the motion of the army. *Clarendon.*  
 3. Facility; freedom from hindrance or obstruction.  
 Nature has provided for the *readiness* and easiness of  
 speech. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*  
 4. State of being willing or prepared.  
 A pious and well-disposed mind, attended with a *readiness*  
 to obey the known will of God, is the surest means to en-  
 lighten the understanding to a belief of christianity. *South.*  
 Their conviction grew so strong, that they embraced the  
 same truths, and laid down their lives, or were always in a  
*readiness* to do it, rather than depart from them. *Addison.*  
**READMISSION**. *n. f.* [*re* and *admission*.] The act of admit-  
 ting again.  
 In an exhausted receiver, animals, that seem as they were  
 dead, revive upon the *readmission* of fresh air. *Arbutnot.*  
 To **READMIT**. *v. a.* [*re* and *admit*.] To let in again.  
 These evils I deserve,  
 Yet despair not of his final pardon,  
 Whose ear is ever open, and his eye  
 Gracious to *readmit* the suppliant. *Milton's Agonistes.*  
 After twenty minutes I *readmitted* the air. *Derham.*  
 To **READORN**. *v. a.* [*re* and *adorn*.] To decorate again;  
 to deck a new.  
 The streams now change their languid blue,  
 Regain their glory, and their fame renew,  
 With scarlet honours *readorn* the tide. *Blackmore.*  
**READY**. *adj.* [*raed*, Saxon; *raed*, Swedish; *hpaed*, nimble,  
 Saxon.]  
 1. Prompt; not delayed.  
 These commodities yield the *readiest* money of any in this  
 kingdom, because they never fail of a price abroad. *Temple.*  
 He overlook'd his hind; their pay was just  
 And *ready*: for he scorn'd to go on trust. *Dryden.*  
 2. Fit for a purpose; not to seek.  
 All things are *ready*, if our minds be so.  
 —Perish the man whose mind is backward now! *Shakefp.*  
 Make you *ready* your stiff bats and clubs;  
 Rome and her rats are at the point of battle. *Shakefp.*  
 One hand the sword, and one the pen employs,  
 And in my lap the *ready* paper lies. *Dryden.*  
 The sacred priests with *ready* knives bereave  
 The beasts of life, and in full bowls receive  
 The streaming blood. *Dryden's Aeneis.*  
 3. Prepared; accommodated to any design, so as that there can  
 be no delay.  
 Trouble and anguish shall prevail against him, as a king  
*ready* to the battle. *Job xv. 24.*  
 Death *ready* stands to interpose his dart. *Milton.*  
 The word which I have giv'n, I'll not revoke;  
 If he be brave, he's *ready* for the stroke. *Dryden.*  
 The imagination is always restless, and the will, reason  
 being laid aside, is *ready* for every extravagant project. *Locke.*  
 4. Willing; eager.  
 Men, when their actions succeed not as they would, are  
 always *ready* to impute the blame thereof unto the heavens, so  
 as to excuse their own follies. *Spenser's State of Ireland.*  
 5. Being